THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) The Indian IT industry has share of about 1.8 per cent of the global market during 2001-2002 in export of computer software and services.

The export increased from Rs. 28350 crores in 2000-01 to Rs. 36500 crores in 2001-02.

North America continues to be the major export destination for export of Indian computer software and services. However, there has been gradual increase in export to other countries of Europe, Latin America and Asian Region including Japan. Details of the export destinations in 2001-02 are as follows:

- ☐ America : 63%
- ☐ Europe : 26%
- ☐ Japan : 4%
- ☐ Rest of World (RoW) : 7%

(b) Government has taken following steps to promote export of computer software and services to destinations other than North America:

(i) Awareness programs and focussed Road Shows in collaboration with the Industry, organized periodically in potential markets such as EU, Japan, Latin America etc.

(ii) Financial support to industry for organizing and participating in international fairs, exhibitions & conferences for marketing Indian strength in the sector.

(iii) Bilateral cooperation strengthened with countries of Europe, Latin America, Japan, Australia and Asian region by entering into Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs). These MoUs have been used to provide platform for the industry to establish contacts with counterparts in these countries and to explore and increase possibilities of exports.

Flexible labour laws for new industries

*248. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a plan for making flexible labour laws for new industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for protection of work force in various industries; and

(d) whether the representatives of major industries have been consulted in the matter, and if so, their reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The interest of workers in various industries is protected through enactment and implementation of labour laws relating to occupational health, safety, social security, welfare, working conditions etc. The National Commission on Labour in its report submitted to Government on 29.06.2002 has made its recommendations keeping in view the need to enhance economic efficiency, productivity and competitiveness of industry with due regard to safeguarding the interest of working population. The recommendations cover various aspects of labour *viz.* review of laws, social security, women & child labour, skill development, labour administration, unorganized sector, etc. The report is under process in consultation with all social partners including representatives of the industry.

Demand for international weapon inspectors for Pakistan

†*250. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had requested U.S.A. to send International Weapon Inspectors to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the U.S. Administration's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.